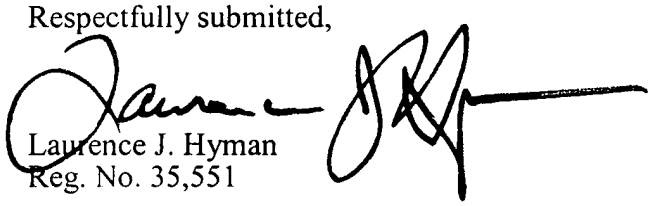
If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



Laurence J. Hyman
Reg. No. 35,551

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
LJH:dmw

PATENT

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 9, 17, and 21 are amended as follows:

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the subsequence encodes a peptide wherein R_1 is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R_2 is Arg; R_3 is Arg; R_4 is Ala; R_5 is Ala; R_6 is Val; R_7 is Asp; R_8 is Thr; R_9 is Tyr; R_{10} is Cys; R_{11} is Arg; R_{12} is His; R_{13} is Asn; R_{14} is Tyr; R_{15} is Gly, and R_{16} is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

17. (Amended) The kit of claim 15, wherein R_1 is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R_2 is Arg; R_3 is Arg; R_4 is Ala; R_5 is Ala; R_6 is Val; R_7 is Asp; R_8 is Thr; R_9 is Tyr; R_{10} is Cys; R_{11} is Arg; R_{12} is His; R_{13} is Asn; R_{14} is Tyr; R_{15} is Gly, and R_{16} is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

21. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein R_1 is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R_2 is Arg; R_3 is Arg; R_4 is Ala; R_5 is Ala; R_6 is Val; R_7 is Asp; R_8 is Thr; R_9 is Tyr; R_{10} is Cys; R_{11} is Arg; R_{12} is His; R_{13} is Asn; R_{14} is Tyr; R_{15} is Gly, and R_{16} is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

PENDING CLAIMS WITH ENTRY OF THE AMENDMENT

7. (As filed) A method for detecting a nucleic acid in a biological sample, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a peptide capable of specifically binding to a Lym-1 antibody, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) contacting the sample with an oligonucleotide primer pair capable of amplifying a subsequence of an MHC nucleic acid, which subsequence encodes a polypeptide comprising a peptide of claim 1,

(b) amplifying the nucleic acid; and

(c) detecting the amplified nucleic acid.

8. (As filed) The method of claim 7, wherein the MHC gene is HLA-DR 10.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the subsequence encodes a peptide wherein R_1 is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R_2 is Arg; R_3 is Arg; R_4 is Ala; R_5 is Ala; R_6 is Val; R_7 is Asp; R_8 is Thr; R_9 is Tyr; R_{10} is Cys; R_{11} is Arg; R_{12} is His; R_{13} is Asn; R_{14} is Tyr; R_{15} is Gly, and R_{16} is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

10. (As filed) The method of claim 7, wherein the biological sample comprises a B cell.

11. (As filed) The method of claim 10, wherein the B cell is a B lymphocytic non-Hodgkin's lymphoma cell.

12. (As filed) The method of claim 11, wherein the non-Hodgkin's lymphoma cell is selected from the group consisting of a B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia/small lymphocytic lymphoma (B-CCL/SLL) cell, a lymphoplasmacytoid lymphoma (LPL) cell, a follicular lymphoma (FL) cell, a mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue lymphoma

(MALTL) cell, a splenic lymphoma with villous lymphocytes (SLVL) cell and a mantle cell lymphoma cell.

13. (As filed) The method of claim 7, wherein the biological sample is a body fluid sample or a biopsy sample.

14. (As filed) The method of claim 13, wherein the body fluid sample is a blood sample.

15. (As filed) A kit for detecting a nucleic acid in a biological sample, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a peptide capable of specifically binding to a Lym-1 antibody, comprising an oligonucleotide primer pair capable of amplifying a subsequence of an MHC gene or gene product, which subsequence encodes a polypeptide comprising a peptide of claim 1.

16. (As filed) The kit of claim 15, wherein the MHC gene is HLA-DR 10.

17. (Amended) The kit of claim 15, wherein R_1 is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R_2 is Arg; R_3 is Arg; R_4 is Ala; R_5 is Ala; R_6 is Val; R_7 is Asp; R_8 is Thr; R_9 is Tyr; R_{10} is Cys; R_{11} is Arg; R_{12} is His; R_{13} is Asn; R_{14} is Tyr; R_{15} is Gly, and R_{16} is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

18. (As filed) The kit of claim 15, further comprising an instructional material teaching a use of the kit, wherein the instructional material indicates that the kit is used for the detection of nucleic acid encoding a peptide reactive with a Lym-1 antibody and that the polypeptide is associated with non-Hodgkin's B cell lymphomas.

19. (As filed) A method for detecting an antibody reactive with a non-Hodgkin's B cell lymphoma cell, comprising:

(a) contacting a sample with a composition of claim 1 under immunologically reactive conditions, and

(a) detecting whether an antibody has specifically bound to the composition.

20. (As filed) The method of claim 19, wherein the sample is a biological sample.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein R_1 is Gln, Lys, or Arg; R_2 is Arg; R_3 is Arg; R_4 is Ala; R_5 is Ala; R_6 is Val; R_7 is Asp; R_8 is Thr; R_9 is Tyr; R_{10} is Cys; R_{11} is Arg; R_{12} is His; R_{13} is Asn; R_{14} is Tyr; R_{15} is Gly, and R_{16} is Val (SEQ ID NO:2).

22. (As filed) The method of claim 19, wherein the antibody is generated by a recombinant nucleic acid library.

23. (As filed) The method of claim 22, wherein the recombinant nucleic acid is a phage display library.

24. (As filed) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is fixed to a solid surface.